

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Accompanying Continuation Application under 37 CFR 1.53:

Prior Application: M. FUKUDA et al  
Serial No. 10/180,536  
Filed: June 27, 2002  
Group Art Unit: 2881  
Examiner: E. Gill

For: METHOD OF PREVENTING CHARGING, AND APPARATUS  
FOR CHARGED PARTICLE BEAM USING THE SAME

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
Alexandria, VA 22313

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above application  
as follows.